CARLSBAD TOURISM BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (CTBID) BOARD

MINUTES

October 14, 2008 3:00 p.m. 1635 Faraday Avenue, Room 173B Carlsbad, CA

I. CALL TO ORDER:

3:05 p.m.

Chair April Shute called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL:

The Chair took roll call and all six Directors were present.

III. (C) APPROVE MINUTES OF AUGUST 26, 2008 MEETING

Mr. Cima made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stripe, to approve the minutes of the August 26, 2008 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. (C) STAFF REPORT

1) Financial Report

Mrs. Gerhardt presented a staff report to update the Board members on financial activity that has transpired since the previous meeting. (The PowerPoint slide presentation is attached to these minutes.)

Financial Highlights include:

- Jan-July CTBID revenue is up 10% over prior year
- Room count has increased 12% over last 8 months.
- Average Occupancy rate last 12 months =61%
- Current year contingency \$220,000
- Unbudgeted reserves \$390,000
- Total number of hotel rooms 3,635

2) CTBID Grant Update

Mrs. Gerhardt gave an update of the CTBID grants. There is \$23,000 remaining in the current fiscal year budget for CTBID grants. The following timeline will be used for the next round of grant applications:

• October 15, 2008 Grant guidelines available

December 15, 2008 Grant applications due to City office by 5 p.m.

Jan/Feb 2009 Grant applications reviewed

• February 2009

Grant recipients announced

V. AB10-08-35 FEEDBACK ON REINT REINDERS & ASSOCIATES REPORT

Mrs. Gerhardt presented feedback from the hotels related to the Reint Reinders & Associates (RR&A) report.

- The RR&A report was sent to CTBID members on September 2 (42+ properties)
- Feedback requested by October 1
- Seven responses received
- Themes of responses received:
 - Support of CCVB
 - Lack of funding to CCVB
 - Too much money spent on studies
 - Lack of action by CTBID Board

Ms. Howard –Jones was disappointed in the lack of responses. Mr. Cima stated that he appreciated the feedback but felt it was a light response. Mr. Cima encouraged the Board to move forward and to consider the comments made when making its decision.

VI. AB10-08-36 AB10-08-36 REINT REINDERS & ASSOCIATES REPORT

Reint Reinders of Reint Reinders & Associates (RR&A) presented their report on how they think the CTBID Board should proceed with the current funding levels. (The PowerPoint slide presentation is attached to these minutes.)

The following is a summary of RR&A's recommendations:

- The CTBID should devote \$350,000 to a focused marketing campaign, over and above the \$450,000 that is currently devoted to the CCVB programs.
- The CTBID should focus on the family and leisure market.
- The campaign should target southern California, Arizona and Las Vegas markets.
- The CTBID should include CCVB in the development and delivery of the marketing program. This work should have oversight from Reint Reinders and Associates.
- Reint Reinders and Associates will return in November with a detailed marketing plan that will be developed by RR&A, a marketing company, and a committee of marketing experts from the hotel industry in

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Carlsbad, including CCVB. In addition, an estimated return on investment will be presented and an outline of the 2009-10 budget. RR&A requested that the Board authorize them to spend up to \$10,000 of the \$350,000 for services to be provided by Mindgruve (http://www.mindgruve.com/) in developing the marketing and branding plan.

The board discussed the plan and received public input from:

- Nancy Nayudu supported the inclusion of the CCVB in the marketing plan. She also questioned the need to develop a new marketing plan since one was developed by CCVB some time ago.
- Rick Smock does not feel that the CTBID needs any advice from RR&A, Kurt Burkhart does a fine job, and we don't need to duplicate work already done by CCVB.
- Norine Sigafoose is very angry and disappointed with the CTBID Board, questioned the hiring or RR&A without a search or RFP process, suggested that RR&A is not needed, suggested that RR&A is making recommendations that will result in RR&A making additional money from the CTBID, said that the CCVB should have gotten all of the CTBID money, that the CCVB and Kurt Burkhart should have been hired by the CTBID at the start, and that the CCVB Board should have been the CTBID Board.
- Randy Chapin Was pleased to see CCVB and the CTBID beginning to come together. Supported moving forward with the plan as proposed, and has no issues with RR&A or their work.

Mr. Canepa made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stripe, to authorize RR&A to develop the detailed marketing plan, to work with an ad hoc advisory committee made up of the key marketing people from the hotels in Carlsbad and Legoland, and to return with the plan by late November 2008. The Board also authorized the use of up to \$10,000 in funds, if necessary, to compensate the marketing company, Mindgruve, for its work on developing the detailed marketing plan. Motion carried unanimously.

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

VIII. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting is on Monday November 24, 2008, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 1635 Faraday Avenue, Room 173A.

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Agenda items to include:

1. RR&A report and marketing plan.

GENERAL COUNSEL COMMENT

None

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Shute adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

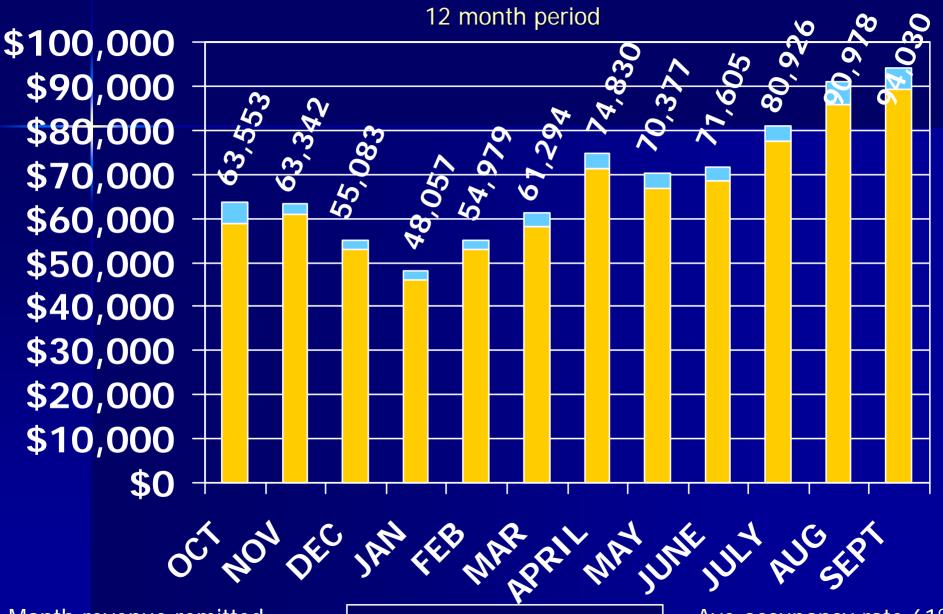
Cheryl Gerhardt Recording Secretary

Carlsbad Tourism Business Improvement District

Financial Update

September 30, 2008

CTBID Assessment Revenue



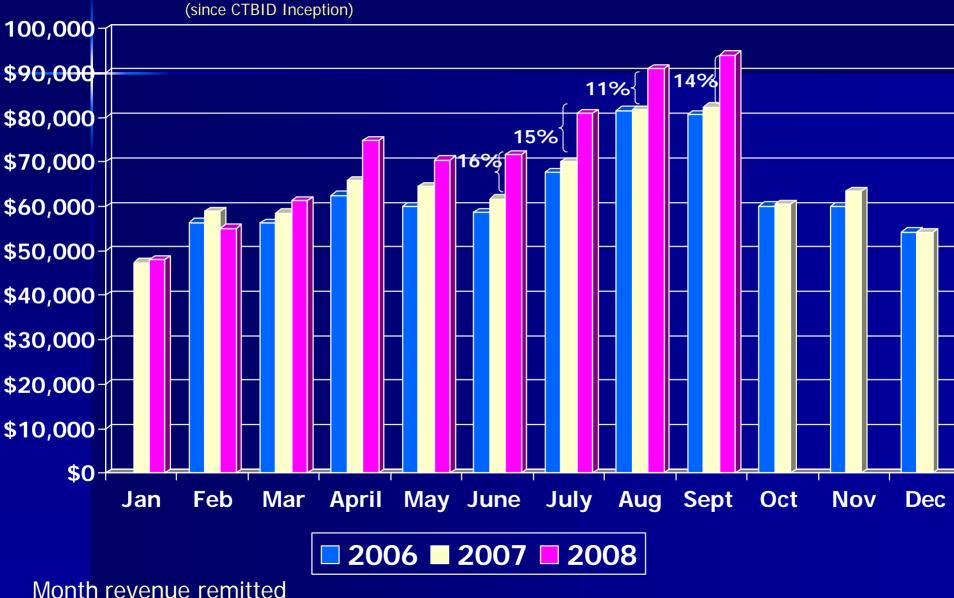
Month revenue remitted

■ Hotel ■ Timeshare

Ave occupancy rate 61%

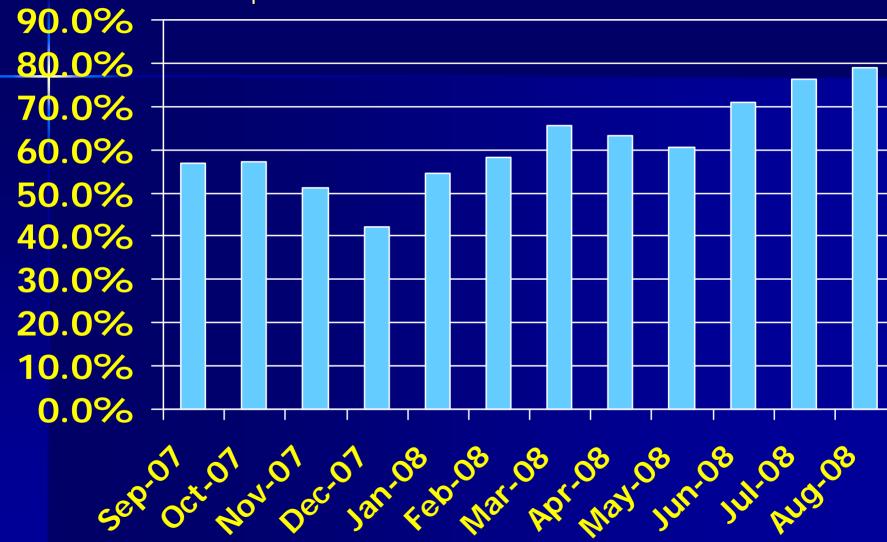
CTBID Assessment Revenue

32 month period (since CTBID Inception)



Monthly Occupancy rate*

12 month period



Month of hotel stay

*Does not include comp rooms

		2008-09 Budget to Actual					
		Program Areas	Budget	Actual			
				30-Sept-08	Difference		
	Re	venues:					
	C	TBID Assessment	775,000	262,227	-512,774		
	In	terest Earnings	10,000	1,398	-8,602		
	Tot	al Estimated Revenues	785,000	263,625	-521,375		
	<u>Exp</u>	<u>enditures:</u>					
	2	% Administrative Fee - City	16,500	5,137	-11,363		
	C	CVB Contract	448,000	112,200	-335,800		
	SI	ONCVB Contract	110,000	27,500	-82,500		
		aff support	16,500	5,787	-10,713		
	C	TBID Grants	40,000	17,000*	-23,000		
	RI	R&A Contract Phase I	20,000	20,000	0		
	RI	R&A Contract Phase II	30,000	0	-30,000		

220,000

901,000

-220,000

-713,376

0

187,624

Contingency

Total Expenses * Encumbered

FYTD 2007 vs 2008

Total Expenses

Program Areas	Actual	Actual	\$	%						
	30-Sep-07	30-Sep-08	Difference	Difference						
Revenues:										
CTBID Assessment	229,116	262,227	33,111	14.5						
Interest Earnings	4,721	1,398	- 3,323	-70.4						
Total Estimated Revenues	233,837	263,625	29,787	12.7						
Expenditures:										
2% Admin. Fee - City	4,921	5,137	215	4.4						
CCVB Contract	112,200	112,200	0	0						
SDNCVB Contract	27,500	27,500	0	0						
Staff support	1,514	5,787	4,273	282.2						
Positioning Study	34,000	0	-34,000	-100.0						
CTBID Grants	0	17,000	17,000	100.0						
RR&A Contracts	0	20,000	20,000	100.0						

135,335

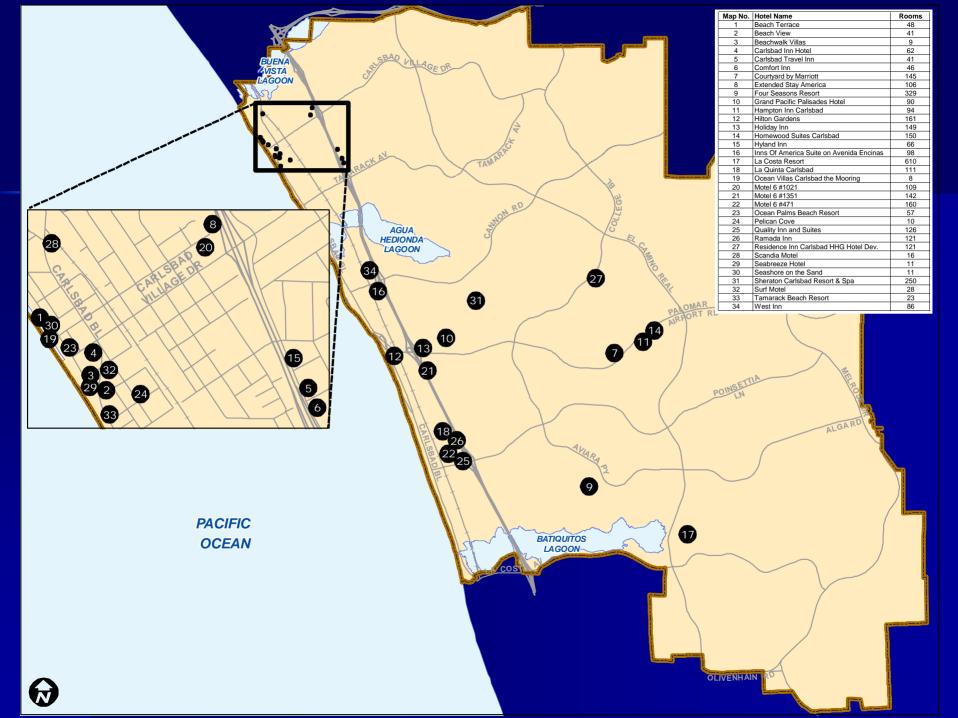
7,488

4.2

180,135

Financial Highlights

- Jan-July CTBID rev is up 10% over prior year
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- Ave Occupancy rate last 12 months = 61%
- Current year contingency \$220,000
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CTBID Grant Program

Grant Funding Available

Amount appropriated for 2008/09 \$40,000

Grants Awarded in 2008/09:

ArtSplash\$ 7,000

Carlsbad Marathon \$10,000

Remaining Balance \$23,000

CTBID Grant Program

Grant Application Timetable

October 15, 2008

December 15, 2008

Jan/Feb 2009

■ February 2009

Grant guidelines available on CTBID web page

Grant applications due to City office by 5 p.m.

Grant applications reviewed

Grant recipients announced

RR&A Report Feedback

- RR&A report sent to CTBID members on September 2 (42+ properties)
- Feedback requested by October 1
- Seven responses received
- Themes of responses received:
 - Support of CCVB
 - Lack of funding to CCVB
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 - Lack of action by CTBID Board

RR&A Recommends

CTBID Board 90-Day Project
Carlsbad, CA
October 14, 2008

RR&A Recommends

- ☐ '08/'09 FY CTBID funds available:
 - □ \$220,000 contingency
 - □ \$390,000 in reserves
- □ RR&A recommends:
 - **□** \$160,000 in reserves
 - □ \$100,000 for contingency
- □ RR&A recommends immediate funding of \$350,000 to be directed toward a new, leisure-targeted marketing campaign

RR&A Recommends Key elements of the plan

- □ Note: San Diego named the #2 "family vacation destination" in USA for 2008 (Travel + Leisure Magazine)
- □ Opportunity for Carlsbad: to be positioned as the "preferred" or the "home" for family vacations within S.D.
- □ Short term goal: spend the funds on marketing to help put leisure "heads in beds" in 2009
- □ Long term goal: positioning of Carlsbad as a highly desirable "family vacation" destination
- ☐ Target audiences: West Coast, L.A. County, O.C., Inland Empire, Las Vegas & AZ - all prime feeder markets

RR&A Recommends Key elements of the plan - continued

□ Media ☐ Print: very selected ☐ Electronic: multiple Internet channels and Blogs, social media networks and tourism and travel writers □ Supplemented by a simultaneous very selected email Blast campaign to penetrate the same feeder markets ☐ Plan element detail - - presented @ Nov. '08 CTBID Bd. mtg. ☐ Launch: 1st quarter of 2009

RR&A Recommends Plan overview

\$350,000 covers all media & production costs; RR&A fees not included ☐ Plan will focus on driving leisure traffic, to be converted into room nights ☐ Inquiry, demand to come directly to CCVB's site with linkage to all hotels □ Dollars go direct to CCVB with RR&A to have oversight responsibilities on behalf of the CTBID Board □ CCVB to form a marketing advisory committee of Carlsbad hoteliers to assist in the full development of the plan ☐ A professional agency will be engaged to produce creative, content, media selection and timeline ☐ Work with a fully integrated agency to develop microsites of the Carlsbad family vacation packages to include Legoland and many - - if not all - - Carlsbad lodging properties

RR&A Recommends Plan overview continued

☐ Plan's package would provide Carlsbad with "tiered" (small, limited service, middle-tier, luxury) opportunities and various price points Media scheduled plan to be supplemented by a simultaneous very targeted e-mail Blast campaign to penetrate the same feeder markets ☐ The (next) November CTBID Board meeting: □ RR&A will present details of the plan along with □ RR&A will present estimated R.O.I. for the recommended campaign □ RR&A will present outline for FY '09-'10 budget

RR&A Recommends Action for CTBID Board to take today:

- □ Approve RR&A's recommended plan for a new leisure targeted marketing campaign designed to drive new leisure room nights for Carlsbad in 2009
- ☐ Direct RR&A to present a detailed work plan for final review
- □ Deploy \$350,000 in CTBID funds to CCVB with oversight by RR&A on behalf of the CTBID Board